

YOUR WEEK IN CHINA'S CAPITAL

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BEIJING TODAY

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Angered by
Jumei Buyback

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Arrive!

More than 400 artifacts from the 2,000-year-old Tomb of the Marquis of Haihun are on display in Beijing's Capital Museum.

Among the 20,000 items are chariots and harnesses that demonstrate the best bronze casting techniques and decorative art of the era. **Page 2**

Beijing to Break Ground on '3.5 Ring Road'

BY DIAO DIAO

The Beijing Municipal Commission of Transport published a draft transport plan on road transportation and construction, transportation hubs, parking lots and other projects on February 24.

The plan called for the construction of a "Three-and-a-Half Ring Road" within five years and a special express subway line for the CBD area.

It also proposed the addition of 9,000 new parking spaces in the districts of Dongcheng and Xicheng.

In 2011, the Chaoyang district government introduced its plan to build a Beijing-Miyun Highway, second phase of Guangqu Road, Chajia East Road and other roads

that would form the basis for a new ring running between Third Ring Road and Fourth Ring Road.

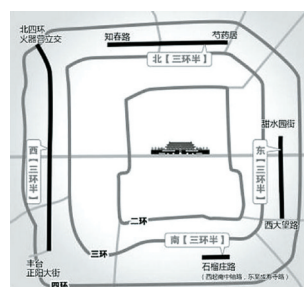
According to the Commission of Transport, Beijing will build 28 kilometers of new expressways. Included are plans to enlarge Guangqu Road, Jingbao Road, Lize Road and the west end of Xiwai Avenue to connect into the new ring.

Three new subway lines, Lines 17, 19 and the Pinggu Line, will also be finished, while Lines 3, 12 and the CBD light rail will begin construction.

The plan also calls for four long-distance hubs located in the west of Beijing, Nanzhao in the south, Tuqiao in the east

and Beiyuan North to open more long lines.

Construction of more railway stations will begin in advance of the Winter Olympic Games, with Beijing East Station, Fengtai station in the south and Qinghe station in the north. ■



CHINESE STOCK INDEXES

SSE (Shanghai)

Close	Change	YTD
2,804.73	▼ 57.83 (-2.02%)	-20.75%

SZSE (Shenzhen)

Close	Change	YTD
9,390.35	▼ 132.79 (-1.39%)	-25.86%

HSI (Hong Kong)

Close	Change	YTD
19,984.42	▼ 11.84 (0.06%)	-8.81%

Accurate to market close on March 10, 2016



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Capital Museum Features Ancient Tomb Artifacts

BY YANG XIN



More than 400 artifacts from the Tomb of the Marquis of Haihun, a 2,000-year-old structure in Jiangxi province, are now on display in Beijing's Capital Museum. The artifacts were selected from among 20,000 items unearthed from the tomb since excavations began in 2011.

"We have chosen around 400 items for the exhibition in Beijing, including bronzes, gold sculptures, jade articles and lacquerware replicas," Xu Changqing, director of Jiangxi Provincial Institute of Archaeology, told CCTV.

Among the highlights are chariots and harnesses that demonstrate the best bronze casting techniques and decorative art of the era.

The tomb, which dates back to the Western Han Dynasty (206 BC – AD 24), is roughly 40,000 square meters and contains eight small tombs and a burial site for chariot horses.

As the best-preserved tomb of its age in China, it is thought to belong to Liu He, grandson of Emperor Wu, according to Xin Lixiang, head of the excavation panel at the Tomb of the Marquis of Haihun. A jade seal found in the interior coffin of the tomb has helped identify Liu's rank.

Liu was given the title "Marquis of Haihun" after he was deposed as ruler the Western Han Dynasty after a reign of only 27 days. Haihun is the ancient name of a very small kingdom in the north of Jiangxi.

Xin, who is one of China's archeological authorities on the Qin and Han dynasties, said the research team found a seal of white jade at the waist position of the human remains.

The printing base is inscribed with the seal characters of "Liu He," name of the Marquis of Haihun, who is also the grandson of Emperor Wu, whose reign ushered in one of the most prosperous periods in China's history.

CCTV also reported that archaeologists have discovered the world's first eco-friendly lanterns and a bronze wine vessel, which is traced back to the Western Zhou Dynasty – antique even by Han Dynasty standards.

This will be the first exhibition of the artifacts outside Jiangxi. Last year, a display featuring 120 items from the tomb attracted 180,000 visitors to the Jiangxi Provincial Museum.

Yang Dandan, a spokesperson for the museum, told Xinhua that the exhibition will prioritize group visitors and allow only 1,000 individual visitors per day during the first week. The daily limit will increase to 5,000 people after that. ■

Supermarkets Begin Stamping Receipts with Disclaimer

BY DIAO DIAO

Local supermarkets are stamping their receipts with a new disclaimer that declares the purchased products are not expired.

The change was first reported to the *Beijing Youth Daily* by a Fengtai district resident surnamed Wang. Reporters visited local Jingkelong, Carrefour, Wumart and Merry Mart locations to confirm that grocers were adding the stamp to receipts.

Another small supermarket near Tuanjiehu also had the same stamp.

A cashier at the Merry Mart by Majiapu said the stamp is not aimed at ordinary customers but to avoid "absurd complaints."

A cashier at the Wumart by Yutingqiao said the store frequently has customers who bring foods to their counter and complain about having purchased expired goods.

Wumart, Carrefour and Lotte Mart reported similar problems.

Sun Wenbo, officer of food safety for Wumart, said the Food Safety Law allows customers who receive expired food to demand the seller or manufacturer pay a compensation of 10 times the price of the product. The lowest compensation payment is 1,000 yuan.

Wumart has received as many as 50 complaints per month during the past six months, Sun said.

Most of the complaints come from what grocers refer to as "professional shoppers": many resort to tactics such as hiding bread inside objects in the hardware department with the intention of returning to purchase it after the expiration date and claim compensation.

Sun said similar stamps are in use in Shanghai and Zhejiang province, where grocers have been similarly exploited.

Qiu Baochang, the chief lawyer for the China Consumers' Association, said such unauthorized stamps have no legal impact. The Beijing Food and Drug Administration said that the stamp can only be considered a kind of warning for the customer. ■



Photo by Beijing Youth Daily

Consumers Question Imported Milk's Curiously Long Expiration Dates

BY DIAO DIAO

Since the Sanlu milk scandal of 2008 that sickened and killed many infants, Chinese customers have favored imported dairy products.

But many have noticed that imported milk available in supermarkets and online bears a longer expiration date than some domestic brands – often six months longer.

Most shoppers associate a short shelf life with fresh products that are free of additives. The shortest expiration date for domestic milk is three days and the longest is six months. The shortest expiration date of imported milk found in supermarket is six months, and the longest is up to one year.

A milk importer who refused to be named told *Beijing Youth Daily* that all milk imports are required to pass a factory test, import test and sale test.

Producing countries spend 8 to 10 days testing the milk before shipping, a process which may take another 30 to 45 days.



CFP Photos

After arriving in China, most milk shipments take two weeks to clear customs and another 15 to 30 days under commodity inspection.

All checks must be completed before the milk can be legally sold.

"A box of milk with a 12-month expiration will spend its first three months getting to China. During its last three months, it's hard to sell. So that realistically limits the sale window to six months. The expiration date of imported

milk has to be prolonged," the imported milk dealer said.

Wang Dingmian, an expert on the Chinese milk industry, told *Beijing Youth Daily* that China does not have a clear regulation about the expiration date of milk. There are only rules in the industry created by practitioners according to the processing methods.

Wang also said that there are no clear regulations in other countries regarding the expiration dates of milk, and imported milk in supermarkets and online shops is produced exclusively for the Chinese market.

Dairy market analyst Song Liang said there are some international regulations about the standard expiration window of milk stored at room temperature.

China requires that the expiration of domestically produced milk stored at room temperature must be less than six months. However, this regulation does not appear to apply to imported milk. ■



Photo by CFP

Jail Teaches Violent Offenders Yoga to Control Anger

BY DIAO DIAO

Tuanhe Education and Treatment Center, a detainment center for violent criminals who are serving the

last year of their sentence, has a new way to help their male inmates prepare for re-integration into society: yoga.

The program, the first of its kind in China, has been in trials since 2013. Forty percent of the inmates enrolled in yoga classes are violent offenders.

Beijing Youth Daily reporters visited the center on February 25, where prisoners were being instructed to finish paint-by-number kits to develop patience.

In another room, eight men were on their mats following a yoga instructor.

Shang Junbing, deputy director of the center, said most of the prisoners were violent alcoholics or frequent brawlers who were learning to curb their anger as part of the center's six-step program.

The first step is recognition of anger, Shang said. Officers record situations that make each prisoner angry and match them to a level to help each cope with their emotions.

Gao Degui, director of the counselling department at the center, said most violent prisoners are poorly educated, aggressive, irritable and lack self-control. More than 90 percent of the prisoners never attended middle school, and 70 percent were in prison for causing intentional injury or disrupting public affairs.

The center has psychological, educational and managerial police to help prisoners. Prisoners are taught to apply what they learn in the center to real life to prevent them from ending up back in jail, Shang said. ■

Beijing Opens Door for Talented Hong Kongers to Settle

BY YANG XIN

A new policy approved by the Ministry of Public Security in January that allows talented people from Hong Kong and Macao to settle on the mainland and apply for Beijing hukou takes effect this month.

The local residency permit that enables holders to access social services and benefits, and extends permanent status to children and spouses of qualified professionals.

Foreign "high-level talents," "innovative and entrepreneurial talents" and Hong Kong and Macau "high-level talents" who hold permanent residence or work residence permits will be allowed to bring foreign domestic helpers to the capital.

The phrases "special talents" or "high-level talents" usually refer to senior managers and professionals with significant experience in high-tech industries. The city's Human Resources and Social Security

Bureau determines whether an overseas talent is qualified.

The Zhongguancun Science and Technology Park in Haidian district will serve as a pilot zone for the new policies, *China News* reported. Beijing authorities have positioned Zhongguancun as a national innovation demonstration zone and the first special talent zone in the country.

The ministry also said that talents who are recognized by Beijing authorities can get hukou by filing applications to the immigration office. Approval should come within 50 days, rather than the former working delay of 180 days.

While Beijing has been issuing residence permits to talents from Hong Kong and Macau since 2003, these permits – which must be renewed every two years – are not equal to hukou and do not enable the bearer to settle down.

While the new preferential measures seem family-friendly, Zhou Qiping, general manager of Gold Personnel in Hong Kong – told Ta Kung Pao that their effectiveness remains questionable as travel between Hong Kong and Beijing is highly convenient. Further, Hong Kongers only need to apply for a work residence permit in order to work on the Chinese mainland.

"I am here because Beijing offers better job opportunities. Permanent residency is a not a significant factor that would make me want to stay," George Yue Hong-chu, a Hong Konger who has been working in Beijing in technology and operations management for eight years, told *News Hong Kong*.

Permanent residency may offer some benefits in medicine and other areas, but these are not enough to attract me to stay for a very long time, he said. ■

Elderly Couples Sues WeChat Friends in 'Red Envelope' Dispute

BY YANG XIN

In recent years, China's digital giants have been offering digital red envelopes, or hongbao, as a way to raise interest in their products during the Lunar New Year's traditional week of feasting and reunions. But the promotion has caused problems for technologically disadvantaged elders.

A couple surnamed Wang living in Haidian district recently sued two of their WeChat friends in the Haidian Court for verbal and personal abuse over a 'red envelope' dispute.

Shortly before the Lantern Festival, their WeChat group for friends who worked

together in the countryside began a 'red envelope grab' campaign.

While busy on grabbing envelopes from their friends, the old couple found that they had no idea how to hand out their own red envelopes through WeChat.

Two group members surnamed Jin and Guo became annoyed and started grumbling about the couple's stinginess. The insults began on the morning of February 20 and lasted for three days – even after the old couple learned how to send red envelopes.

The old couple have decided not to

respond in order not to ruin the joyful holiday atmosphere in the group.

The couple is now asking for Jin and Guo to cease their personal insults and issue a public apology in the WeChat group. They are also seeking 400 yuan in punitive compensation for "mental anguish."

The couple said Jin and Guo deliberately damaged their reputation, personal image and dignity, and that they believe them men are responsible for their insomnia, headaches, dizziness and chest distress.

The case is still under further proceedings. ■

THE WEEK IN WEIRD

STRANGE HAPPENINGS ON THE CHINESE NEWS WIRE
BY SU DERUI

Pining for Holiday, Men Ignite Fireworks in Airport

Armed police detained four men who thought it was be a good idea to set off firecrackers on Sunday in the main hall of Beijing Capital International Airport Terminal 2.

Tweets and blog posts showed the officers taking away one of the four men, who appeared to be old enough to know better.

While the airport does advise passengers that they are not allowed to carry explosives past the security checkpoint, they do not advise passengers to detonate any explosives they may have on their person in the public area.

(Tencent News)

Kaifeng Jews Return to Homeland After a Millennium

Five Chinese Jewish women from Kaifeng have traveled to Israel to begin the year of Hebrew and Judaism studies required before they can be formally recognized by Israel and have the opportunity to obtain citizenship.

The women are among a thousand who can trace their heritage to the ancient Jewish community in Kaifeng, which historians believe was formed by Persian Jewish traders during the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127).

Their journey has been sponsored by Shavei Israel, an organization that helps lost Jews immigrate to Israel and supports them during their formal conversion to the religion.

Between 500 to 1,000 Chinese Jews in Kaifeng still observe some form of Jewish custom, though the community has been without a synagogue for many years.

(SinoCa.com)

Thailand Begins Crackdown on Delinquent Chinese Drivers

The Thailand government wants Chinese tourists who bring their own vehicles into the country to respect the rules of the road.

The Bangkok Post reported there have been several major accidents involving Chinese drivers who are unfamiliar with Thai traffic laws. Videos posted online reveal many Chinese drivers operating their vehicles on the wrong side of the road, and Thai forums are full of picture of Chinese vehicles being parked illegally or dangerously at tourist hotspots like Chiang Mai and Phayao.

China is not a member of the Geneva Convention on Road Traffic and it is illegal for Chinese drivers to enter Thailand without an international driving license.

(Tencent News)

Beijinger Paid for Fingering Foreigner for Terrorist

It pays to be a snitch in Beijing: even when you're wrong. A local who felt a foreigner in his neighborhood was "acting suspiciously" phoned the Beijing Office of Counter-Terrorism to report the suspected ne'er-do-well.

Police arrived and interviewed the foreigner. Satisfied that he was not up to any trouble, they left the man to go about his business.

In recognition for his stellar services, the police awarded the informant 3,000 yuan in accordance with the Anti-Terrorism Act, which mandate a cash reward for citizens who report suspicious activity.

(Tencent News)



Photo by CFP

Jumei's Buyback Discourages Investors from Chinese Companies

BY KARENA HU

This March is may be the most difficult month yet for beauty product retailer Jumei. With its recent online promotion drawing to a close, CEO Chen Ou has drawn the fury of investors with the company's sudden decision to return to being privately held.

On February 29, as many as 270 shareholders organized to wield their 10 percent stake in the company and thwart its efforts to go private.

Li Chao, a member of the Jumei Rights Protection Group, is a small investor who holds strong confidence in Chinese companies entering the US stock market. But news of Jumei's exit cost Li roughly \$40,000.

"It's not my opinion that Jumei shouldn't go private again, but company really needs to consider the best way to do it," Li said.

What Happened?

Li's rage did come out for a reason.

After its poor performance on the US stock exchange, Jumei announced its plan to buy back its shares at \$7 per share and complete its transition on February 16.

When the company became listed on the NASDAQ in 2014, its initial public offer was \$22 per share.

That significant loss upset many of Jumei's small investors, who questioned whether the company was manipulating

the stock price to complete its buyback at a low cost.

Trade records show that Jumei's stock price remained above \$7 for 97 percent of the past two years. Even during the past 60 days before its return to private holding, Jumei's average share price was \$7.84.

Jumei claimed its share price had averaged \$5.53 only 10 trading days before the move.

"Companies don't normally see such sweeping stock fluctuations immediately before announcing their final share price," said Wang Fengjuan, a professor at Beijing Technology and Business University. The timing of the buyback was a serious mistake – one that could cost Jumei its credibility if it attempts to get listed on the Chinese stock market in the near future, Wang said.

Jumei has also been criticized for releasing deceptive messages to its investors, encouraging them to hold onto their shares while its value tumbled. Seeing sluggish performance in the stock market in 2014, Jumei released a stock repurchase plan as a positive signal that management remained hopeful about the stock's prospects. The company never implemented the plan and left investors waiting for the buyback announcement.

Weak Foundation

Established in 2010 to target the then open market for online cosmetics, Jumei relied on a branding strategy that painted its CEO as a superstar. Its commercials featuring Chen Ou quickly became popular with Chinese audiences and drove shoppers to Jumei.com.

But Jumei's problems were never hard to spot. Rumors of bad business practices have hounded the company almost since its founding.

In 2014, Jumei was busted for selling counterfeit wristwatches. The company responded by shifting its business structure to emphasize its own stock and strengthening its direct cooperation with brands instead of third-party sellers. The reform did very little to save Jumei's reputation, and even a year later news of the company selling counterfeit products was common online.

In the third quarter in 2015, Jumei's financial statement showed its first loss after two years of profit. Since then, the stock plummet never stopped.

"Jumei cannot make big money by selling well-known products. Because of the high cost and high return rate, it seems the vertical e-commerce model doesn't fit for cosmetics websites," said Liuyedao, a blogger on Baidu Baijia.

What's Next

Surprisingly, Jumei's return to being pri-

vately held was not the biggest foul-up by a Chinese seeking to exit the American stock market: similar moves by Dangdang and YY were made based on the price of their last trading day.

But of the three, Jumei was the only one who offered a final share price that was only one-third of its initial offering.

Zhang, an investor rights activist, told *China Business Journal* that his group and the Chinese capital management corporation iMeigu have requested investigation from the Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) into Jumei's buyback. Several investors said they would sue the company in the Cayman Islands, where Jumei is registered, if the SEC investigation does not go smoothly.

"Even if both attempts fail, the investors will try to prevent Jumei from going public again in China," Zhang said. Jumei has not commented on Zhang's plans since their public announcement.

Jumei's poor exit may weaken investor confidence in other Chinese stocks. In 2015, a total of 25 Chinese companies exited the US stock market. "Facing such low-priced buybacks and a lax legal system, it seems quite reasonable that investors may lose faith in Chinese stocks," says Liu Kejiang, senior partner of Deheng Law Group.

Liu said Jumei's conduct may further erode investor's faith.

The ideal final share price for Jumei should have been \$8.2, according to Liuyedao's blog. The final share price needs to be confirmed at a shareholders meeting which is expected to be held sometime during the first quarter.

"It is highly advised for Jumei to keep a positive relationship with its investors if it desires to go back to the China stock market. I really hope the management will increase the final price to an acceptable level so this can be a mutually beneficial outcome for its investors," said Kuang Jie, a commentator for China National Radio. ■

(Karen Hu is an intern at Beijing Today.)

Lack of Regulation, Investigation Leads Chinese College Students to Risky Loans

BY YANG XIN

Internet financial services offering small loans of 50,000 yuan or less to young adults are being utilized by an increasing number of students.

More than 60 percent of Chinese university students borrow money from online financial services to shop or travel, according to a survey by China University Media Union (CUMU).

As for the amount of the loans, nearly 41 percent of those polled borrowed less than 1,000 yuan, 40 percent borrowed 1,000-2,000 yuan and 5 percent borrowed more than 5,000 yuan.

Xinhua recently reported the story of one college junior in Shenyang, Liaoning province who owed as much as 50,000 yuan after borrowing from private loan providers to support his video game interest. He was forced to drop out of school to start working to pay off

the debt with the help of his parents.

In late 2015, *Chutian Metropolis Daily* in Hubei province reported the story of one student who obtained a 30,000 yuan from several private loan platforms for personal consumption and later came to owe 700,000 yuan with interest.

Private Loan Market

In 2009, the China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC) banned domestic banks from offering credit cards and personal loans to students. The move left a significant opportunity for Internet financial companies to capture the market.

Employees at one private online loan company told Xinhua that students applying for loans only needed to provide their national ID card, student ID card and personal school roll information for the company to gauge their

"credit worthiness."

The company offered loans of 3,000 to 50,000 yuan. Yet information about the commission fee, cost of default and delayed repayment were suspiciously absent.

A market survey by the *Legal Daily* in 2015 found that the seemingly attractive interest rates in many private loan companies' advertisements were a lie. Most charged a premium of 20 percent on the loan and some charged more than 24 percent interest, the legal ceiling for interest in private lending as set by the Supreme People's Court last September.

Few student customers realize such penalties even exist.

Kang Jun, dean of the marketing department at Hunan University, called for more supervision and regulation of online finance, such as requiring providers to guarantee that students are properly informed about the loan's terms and penalties.

For some banking insiders, the booming private online student loan business is reminiscent of the 'credit card fever' that swept Chinese campuses before the government ban a decade ago.

In 2002, China Merchants Bank issued its first credit card for college students. Since then, a growing number of students were lured to apply for credit cards: a wave of defaults soon followed.

In a report jointly released by Beijing Zhicheng Credit Service Company and the People's University of China Credit

Management and Research Center, more than 80 percent of college students said they never heard of individual credit reporting, and more than 30 percent were not aware of the influence an overdue record would have on their credit rating and future financial life.

China's personal credit investigation system has a rather short history compared to some Western economies. It only records a person's financial transactions with financial institutions. For a student who is neither going to buy a house nor apply for a credit card, a blemished credit history is no big deal, said an analyst on Bankrate.com.

US Private Student Loans

Forbes once listed eight common types of loans for students in the US to pay for college, one of which is private student loan offered by a private lender at an interest rate of 3-12 percent. Compared with the 20 percent or higher interest rates charged by most Chinese private loans providers, it is undoubtedly more efficient.

In terms of the application procedures, almost all private student loans in the US require undergraduates to have a credit-worthy cosigner.

There are also many private student loan consulting companies which help students to select the best loan product. For example, Simple Tuition offers a way to search for deals on private student loans. Some consultants also carry a College Loan Calculator to help students add up all of their college expense so as to determine how much to request from a lender.

The amount each student can borrow in private student loans each year is limited to the student's school cost of attendance minus any financial aid he or she has already received. The amount a student can borrow will be determined by his or her credit history and, if applicable, that of the co-signer.

Universities' financial aid departments play a part too. Private student loans, as a supplement of federal student loans, are introduced on many universities' websites in detail.

"We advise you to only borrow what is truly needed to pay for qualified educational expenses. When borrowing to finance your education, you should give serious consideration to the loan amounts needed throughout your entire education," the University of Mississippi wrote on its official website. ■



Photo by CFP



Going Abroad with Your Animals

BY VENUS LEE



Photos from Baidu

Finding a way to deal with your pets when leaving China can be a heart wrenching experience. It certainly was for Kim Van Rijssen, a flower trader, who adopted two dogs during her time in Beijing.

"My aunt will take care of the wounded one for me, and I plan to send the dog to Amsterdam on June or July," she said.

Van Rijssen was one of many people who attended a community information session, organized by International Center for Veterinary Services (ICVS) on Saturday in Wangjing, for people preparing to depart the country with animals.

"I only knew that entry requirements for the importation of pets would vary from country to country. I had no idea about the procedures at all," she said.

Getting an animal out of China requires making preparations at least two months prior to departing China. Cats and dogs require a rabies vaccine within 12 months of departure, but no later than 30 days before the flight. Other animals also require a health certificate issued by Entry-Exit Inspection & Quarantine Bureau animal hospital no more than seven days before departure.

With those documents in hand, the pet owner can obtain an exit permit for the animal from the Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureau, said Marry Peng, president of ICVS.

Peng, an American, began providing veterinary and animal exit services in 1996. She adopted a dog and cat on her



first trip to China in 1991. When she returned to the US in 1996, she found that there was little information about animal entry and exit services.

"I was panicked and had no idea how to deal with my pets," she said. "A lot of expatriates had to abandon their pets when they left the country at that time. It was something that brought a lot of heartache."

In 2003, when more people in the city began to raise dogs, the government came up with policies and regulations

to govern the entry and exit of animals. But these were slow to be implemented.

"The inspection and quarantine authorities did not perform their duties at that time. The proxy companies that offered outbound services for pets usually charged more than people could afford, so many pets were still abandoned," she said.

The situation has improved in recent years, Peng said.

Marlen Weitzel, a marketing and customer relationship manager, said

she is preparing to take her two dogs to Germany this summer. Snuggles, her first dog, joined her family two years ago when she firstly arrived in Beijing. Dottie, the second, is a deep brown dog she found on the streets of Sanlitun last year.

"When you decide to adopt them, it means you need to take responsibility and give them a home and never leave them behind," she said. That's a problem, because airplane passengers are limited to carrying a single animal.

Many airlines have further restrictions on animals and require that pet crates be approved before the date of the flight, Peng said. Air crates must be made of strong and durable plastic with top and bottom sections that are attached with nuts and bolts. The door must be a see-through metal grate with a spring release latching mechanism that the pet cannot open.

"Line the floor of the crate with a small or folded cotton towel that already has a scent familiar to your pet. This will help provide familiar smells and comfortable cushioning during the journey. The towels also help to absorb any spilled water, urine or other fluids," Peng said.

Pets can easily become upset on long flights. Peng advised pet owners to avoid feeding their animals for six hours before the flight, to walk their dogs in the morning and 30 minutes before departure and to use a pet collar that will not become tangled in the crate door. ■



Photo by British Council

British Musician Arrives in China for Sino-British Program

BY WANG YAN



Photos by mmagazine



British musician Kerry Andrew has arrived in China for a music exchange program set up by the British Council and the PRS for Music Foundation.

Andrew is the third musician of the program and she will stay in China for five weeks. Andrew will mainly stay in Henan province and exchange music ideas with musicians and traditional artists in the cities of Zhengzhou, Kaifeng and Luoyang.

She will meet local bands such as Godfather and Carp Slide. British musicians Mira Calix and Bella Hardy also have been selected for the program.

Andrew said she was excited for her trip to Henan. "My music belongs to contemporary art form. Yet I like folk stories and folk music," Andrew told the British Council in Beijing. The artist also set a theme for her trip. "My theme will be 'fox' – I want to explore how this smart creature is expressed in both Western and Eastern cultures."

Born in 1978, Andrew is a well-known London-based composer, performer, writer

and actress. She is best known for a cappella, folk, jazz and theatrical music. Her work has been featured on BBC 3, BBC 4 and Classic FM. She has won the British Composer Awards in 2010 and 2014.

Andrew studied music and composition at the University of York. She has academic affiliations with Trinity College of Music through their Junior Trinity and Trinity Laban programs and at the University of Kent.

Andrew's choral works have been published by Oxford University Press and by Faber Music. Her vocal trio piece "The Song of Doves" concluded the national memorial service for the victims of the July 7 bombings, receiving national broadcast live on the BBC and other news outlets. Her composition "Dusk Songs" was commissioned and recorded by The Ebor Singers, and released by Boreas Music in 2007.

In addition to her composition work, Andrew is a member of the ensembles Juice DOLLYman and Metamorphic. She also performs as a solo alt-folk artist under the name You Are Wolf. ■

Michela Murgia Arrives for Book Talk at Bookworm

BY WANG YAN

Italian writer Michela Murgia is arriving in Beijing on March 14 for the Bookworm Literature Festival.

Murgia was born in Cabras, Italy in 1972. She attended theological studies and worked as a religion teacher, as well as for the organization Azione Cattolica, before making her literary debut in 2006 with *Il Mondo Deve Sapere*. The book was later adapted to the film *Tutta la Vita Davanti* by Paolo Virzi. She is also the author of *Viaggio in Sardegna* and *Accabadora*, the winner of 2010 Campiello Award.

She has been an honorary member of the Coordination of Italian Female Theologians since 2011 and

has collaborated with many magazines and newspapers. Her books have been translated into more than 20 languages.

During her visit in Beijing, she will present the award-winning novel *Accabadora* and its Chinese version. The Chinese version is translated by Tang Di and published by Shanghai Wenyi Press.

In the panel discussion, Murgia will also join Spanish author Jon Bilbao, Scot Slaby, a Shanghai based American poet and Beijing-based writer Carly J. Hallman. These writers will discuss human conditions and how writing can be used as a vehicle to understand different human emotions and conditions. ■



☉ March 14
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Find Your Fun in Seoul



Seoul, the capital of South Korea and the heart of Asian entertainment, is an ideal destination for a fun spring trip. Join us in March and start your adventure in Seoul. We will set out from Beijing for a five-day tour to Seoul that covers Kwangjang Market, the Bibap Show and the famous Lotte World amusement park.

Lotte World is recognized by Guinness as the world's largest indoor amusement park. The trip includes a two-hour stop at the magical park for lots of fun. More than 100 million tourists have visited Lotte World since its opening in 1989. In the indoor area, visitors can see souvenir shops and an incredible laser show. For the brave, the exciting rollercoaster and the 70-meter drop are Lotte World's most famous attractions.

Kwangjang Market is a traditional market located in the heart of the capital with more than one hundred years of history. Apart from being the top market in Seoul, it is also the largest market in



South Korea. Kwangjang is well-known for selling high-quality Korean products at affordable prices. It's easy to find authentic snacks at almost every shop in the market, the most popular of which are Topokki (fried rice cakes), Gimbap (Korean seaweed and rice rolls) and Bindaetteok (mung bean crepes). You can also purchase hanbok, Korean traditional garments, at a reasonable price for a gift. A set of hanbok usually costs 35,000 won, or about 2,000 yuan.

Another highlight in our Seoul trip is the world-famous Bibap Show, whose ticket is included in the tour fee. Bibap, known as "most delicious show around the globe," is a non-verbal play features the signature Korean dish: Bibimbap. Bibap combines beatboxing, chorus and martial arts to show the audience how bibimbap is made. In 2010, Bibap went to the Edinburgh International Festival and received positive comments from audience. It has been performed publicly in Seoul since May 2011, and is a must-see show on any visit.

Seoul trips depart in March, April, May, November and December. Contact us early to book your reservation for a five-day tour. ■

(By Karena Hu)

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